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| FORM PTO-1390<br>MODIFIED   | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER<br><b>3952-76</b>                                 |
| <b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES<br/>DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)<br/>CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371</b>   |   | U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 C.F.R. 1.5)<br><br><b>10/524136</b> |
| INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.<br><b>PCT/FI2003/000601</b>   | INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE<br><b>12 August 2003</b>      | PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED<br><b>13 August 2002</b>                             |
| TITLE OF INVENTION<br><b>BIODEGRADABLE FIBROUS SUPPORT FOR SOIL MULCHING</b>  |   |  |
| APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US<br><b>GIRARD et al</b>  |   |  |
| Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:   |   |  |
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.<br>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.<br>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.<br>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The U.S. has been elected (Article 31).<br>5. A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).<br>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> published WO 2004/014124 is attached hereto (16 pages specification, claims & abstract (21 claims)).<br>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau (copy of Form IB/PCT/308 is attached).<br>c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).<br>6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))<br>a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (        pages specification, claims & abstract (        claims),        sheets drawings,        page Certificate of Translation).<br>b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).<br>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))<br>a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).<br>b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau.<br>c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has <b>NOT</b> expired.<br>d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.<br>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).<br>9. a. <input type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).<br>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration was submitted to the International Bureau during International Phase (see copies of Declaration (        page Form PCT/RO/101 and Form PCT/IB/371 and first page of printed publication acknowledging receipt thereof attached).<br>10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).<br><b>Items 11 To 20 below concern document(s) or information included:</b><br>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98.<br>12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 3.28 and 3.31 is included.<br>13. a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <b>FIRST</b> preliminary amendment.<br>b. <input type="checkbox"/> A <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> preliminary amendment.<br>14. <input type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 C.F.R. § 1.76.<br>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.<br>16. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.<br>17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825.<br>18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).<br>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).<br>20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information. AMENDED SHEETS 13-15 ANNEXED TO INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT |   |  |

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| U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 C.F.R. 1.5)<br><b>Unknown 524136</b>  |              | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.<br><b>PCT/FI2003/000601</b>                     |         | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER<br><b>3952-76</b> |                           |
| 21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted:  |              |   |         |  |                           |
| <b>BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 C.F.R. 1.492(a)(1)-(5):</b>  |              |   |         |  |                           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a) Basic national fee .....  |              |   |         | \$300.00 (1631)/\$150.00 (2631)            | \$ 300.00                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> b) Examination Fee .....   |              |   |         | \$200.00 (1633)/\$100.00 (2633)            | \$ 200.00                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c) Search Fee .....  |              |   |         | \$500.00 (1632)/\$250.00 (2632)            | \$ 500.00                 |
| <b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS .....</b>   |              |   |         | <b>\$1000.00/\$500.00</b>                  | <b>\$ 1000.00</b>         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.   |              |   |         |  |                           |
| Total Sheets   | Extra Sheets | Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number) |         | RATE                                       |                           |
| 0 -100   | 0            | /50 = 0.00  |         | \$0.00 (1681)<br>\$0.00 (2681)             |                           |
| Surcharge of \$130.00 (1617)/\$65.00 (2617) for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 C.F.R. 1.492(e)).  |              |   |         |  | \$ 130.00                 |
| CLAIMS   |              | NUMBER FILED  | # EXTRA | RATE                                       |                           |
| Total Claims   | 18           | minus 20  | 0 X     | \$50.00 (1615)/                            | \$25.00 (2615)            |
| Independent Claims   | 1            | minus 3 =   | 0 X     | \$200.00 (1614)                            | \$100.00 (2614)           |
| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS(S) (if applicable)   |              |   |         | \$360.00 (1616)/\$180.00 (2616)            |                           |
| Petition is hereby made to extend the current due date so as to cover the filing date of this paper and attachment(s): One Month Extension \$120.00 (1251)/\$60.00 (2251); Two Month Extensions \$450.00 (1252)/\$225.00 (2252); Three Month Extensions \$1020.00 (1253)/\$510.00 (2253); Four Month Extensions \$1590.00 (1254)/\$795.00 (2254)   |              |   |         |  | \$ 0.00                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.  |              |   |         |  |                           |
| Processing fee of \$130.00 (1618), for furnishing the English Translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 C.F.R. 1.492(f)).  |              |   |         |  | 0.00                      |
| <b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</b>  |              |   |         |  | <b>\$ 1130.00</b>         |
| Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 C.F.R. 1.21(h). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 C.F.R. 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 (8021) per property   |              |   |         |  | \$ 0.00                   |
| Fee for Petition to Revive Unintentionally Abandoned Application; \$1500.00 (1453) / \$750.00 (2453)   |              |   |         |  | \$ 0.00                   |
| <b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</b>   |              |   |         |  | <b>\$ 1130.00</b>         |
|  |              |   |         |  | Amount to be: refunded \$ |
|  |              |   |         |  | Charged \$                |
| a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$1130.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.<br>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. 14-1140 in the amount of \$_____ to cover the above fees.<br>A duplicate copy of this form is enclosed.<br>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-1140. A duplicate copy of this form is enclosed.<br>d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>CREDIT CARD PAYMENT FORM ATTACHED.</b><br>e. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The entire content of International Application No. PCT/FI2003/000601 and any U.S. and foreign application(s) corresponding thereto, and FR 02/10260, referred to in this application is/are hereby incorporated by reference in this application.<br><b>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 C.F.R. 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 C.F.R. 1.137(a) or (b) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.</b><br><b>CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS</b><br><b>Direct all correspondence to:</b><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Customer Number:</b> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 20px;"><b>23117</b></span><br>Type Customer Number here |              |   |         |  |                           |
| Telephone: (703) 816-4000<br>BHD:lmv   |              |   |         |  |                           |
| <br><b>Bryan H. Davidson</b><br>NAME   |              |   |         |  |                           |
| <b>30,251</b><br>REGISTRATION NUMBER   |              |   |         |  |                           |
| <b>February 11, 2005</b><br>Date   |              |   |         |  |                           |